IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (New): A catalytically active composition comprising an active component having the formula

wherein Y = Au or Rh,

and wherein the indices a, c and d indicate the mass ratios of the respective elements and $0.1 \le a \le 3$, $0.1 \le c \le 3$ and $0 \le d \le 1$,

on silicon carbide or steatite as carrier.

Claim 20 (New): A catalytically active composition comprising an active component having the formula

Pd_aRh_bBi_c,

wherein the indices a, b, c indicate the mass ratios of the respective elements and 0.1 $\leq a \leq 3$, $0 \leq b \leq 3$ and $0.1 \leq c \leq 3$,

on silicon carbide or steatite as carrier.

Claim 21 (New): A catalytically active composition comprising an active component having the formula

wherein a and c indicate the mass ratios of the respective elements and $0.1 \le a \le 3$ and $0.1 \le c \le 3$,

on silicon carbide or steatite as carrier.

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Claim 22 (New): A catalytically active composition comprising an active component having the formula

wherein Z = Ag or Pt,

and wherein the indices a, b, c and e indicate the mass ratios of the respective elements and $0.1 \le a \le 3$, $0.1 \le c \le 3$ and $0 \le c \le 1$,

on silicon carbide or steatite as carrier.

Claim 23 (New): A catalytically active composition comprising an active component having the formula

wherein the indices a, c and e indicate the mass ratios of the respective elements and $0.1 \le a \le 3, 0.1 \le c \le 3$ and $0 \le e \le 1$,

on silicon carbide or steatite as carrier.

Claim 24 (New): A catalytically active composition comprising an active component having a formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$Pd_{0.5-1.0}Rh_{0.5-1.25}Bi_{1.25-1.75}Ag_{0.05-0.15}$$

$$Pd_{0.5-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.5}Bi_{0.75-1.25}Pt_{0.01-0.1}$$

 $Pd_{0.25-0.5}Rh_{1.75-2.5}Bi_{0.25-0.5}Co_{0.01-0.1}$

 $Pd_{0.5-1.25}Rh_{0.5-1.25}Bi_{0.75-1.5}Cr_{0.01-0.1}$

 $Pd_{1.0-1.75}Rh_{0.25-0.75}Bi_{0.75-1.5}Pt_{0.0-0.15}Co_{0.01-0.1}$

 $Pd_{1.0-1.75}Rh_{0.25-0.75}Bi_{0.75-1.5}Pt_{0.05-0.15}$

 $Pd_{0.5-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.75}Bi_{0.5-1.25}Ag_{0.03-0.15}Ca_{0.02-0.1}$

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 $Pd_{0.4-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.75}Bi_{0.75-1.25}Ag_{0.03-0.15}$

 $Pd_{1.25-1.75}Bi_{1.25-1.75}Co_{0.005-0.02}$

 $Pd_{0.4-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.75}Bi_{0.75-1.25}$ and

 $Pd_{0.15-2.25}Rh_{0-2.5}Bi_{0.15-2.75}$

on a carrier, wherein the indices indicate the mass ratios of the respective elements.

Claim 25 (New): A method of using a catalytically active composition comprising an active component of the formula $Pd_aBi_cY_d$ according to claim 19 on a carrier for the dehydrogenation of cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds to the corresponding α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.

Claim 26 (New): The method according to claim 25 wherein the cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compound is selected from the group consisting of cyclopentanone, butanone, butyraldehyde, cyclohexanone and isovaleraldehyde.

Claim 27 (New): A method of using a catalytically active composition comprising an active component of the formula $Pd_aRh_bBi_c$ according to claim 20 on a carrier for the dehydrogenation of cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds to the corresponding α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.

Claim 28 (New): The method according to claim 27, wherein the cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compound is selected from the group consisting of cyclopentanone, butanone, butyraldehyde, cyclohexanone and isovaleraldehyde.

Claim 29 (New): A method of using a catalytically active composition comprising an active component of the formula Pd_aBi_c according to claim 21 on a carrier for the dehydrogenation of cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds to the corresponding α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.

Claim 30 (New): The method according to claim 29, wherein the cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds are selected from the group consisting of cyclopentanone, butanone, butyraldehyde, cyclohexanone and isovaleraldehyde.

Claim 31 (New): A method of using a catalytically active composition comprising an active component of the formula $Pd_aRh_bBi_cZ_e$ according to claim 22 on a carrier for the dehydrogenation of cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds to the corresponding α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.

Claim 32 (New): The method according to claim 31, wherein the cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds are selected from the group consisting of cyclopentanone, butanone, butyraldehyde, cyclohexanone and isovaleraldehyde.

Claim 33 (New): A method of using a catalytically active composition comprising an active component of the formula $Pd_aBi_cCo_e$ according to claim 23 on a carrier for the dehydrogenation of cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds to the corresponding α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.

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Claim 34 (New): The method according to claim 33, wherein the cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds are selected from the group consisting of cyclopentanone, butanone, butyraldehyde, cyclohexanone and isovaleraldehyde.

Claim 35 (New): A method of using a catalytically active composition comprising an active component having a formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$Pd_{0.5-1.0}Rh_{0.5-1.25}Bi_{1.25-1.75}Ag_{0.05-0.15}$$

$$Pd_{0.5-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.5}Bi_{0.75-1.25}Pt_{0.01-0.1}$$

$$Pd_{0.25-0.5}Rh_{1.75-2.5}Bi_{0.25-0.5}Co_{0.01-0.1}$$

$$Pd_{0.5-1.25}Rh_{0.5-1.25}Bi_{0.75-1.5}Cr_{0.01-0.1}$$

$$Pd_{1.0\text{-}1.75}Rh_{0.25\text{-}0.75}Bi_{0.75\text{-}1.5}Pt_{0.0\text{-}0.15}Co_{0.01\text{-}0.1}$$

$$Pd_{1.0-1.75}Rh_{0.25-0.75}Bi_{0.75-1.5}Pt_{0.05-0.15}$$

$$Pd_{0.5\text{-}1.0}Rh_{1.0\text{-}1.75}Bi_{0.5\text{-}1.25}Ag_{0.03\text{-}0.15}Ca_{0.02\text{-}0.1}$$

$$Pd_{0.4-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.75}Bi_{0.75-1.25}Ag_{0.03-0.15}$$

$$Pd_{1.25-1.75}Bi_{1.25-1.75}Co_{0.005-0.02}$$

$$Pd_{0.4-1.0}Rh_{1.0-1.75}Bi_{0.75-1.25}$$
 and

$$Pd_{0.15-2.25}Rh_{0-2.5}Bi_{0.15-2.75}$$

according to claim 24 on a carrier for the dehydrogenation of cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds to the corresponding α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.

Claim 36 (New): The use according to claim 35, wherein the cyclic or acyclic carbonyl compounds are selected from the group consisting of cyclopentanone, butanone, butyraldehyde, cyclohexanone and isovaleraldehyde.